

AAI Scholarship Update  
As of 9/19/15  
(By Dave Robb)

**Goal/Categories:** The overall goal for the AAI donations towards art scholarships and student memberships is to promote the art education and show experience for local students. Local students include ones involved in smArts, Idyllwild Arts Academy, home-schooling, and Idyllwild kids attending off the Hill high schools. In the past, the last two groups were not given equal attention when looking at promoting art education in our community.

**Recommendation:** The way I recommend that the Art Alliance of Idyllwild's scholarship donations being structured is 4-fold:

- 1) **AAI Student Memberships:** We currently have 12 sponsorships for AAI Student Memberships with a value of \$20 each. Since members get to participate in AAI Art Shows and events, it is recommended that these sponsored memberships be awarded to Idyllwild high school age kids attending Idyllwild Arts, Home school, or off the Hill high schools. This will allow students, such as Kate Protosova from Idyllwild Arts, to participate in AAI events and provide them experience in an art show environment
- 2) **Elementary Art Supplies (smArts):** Continued donations to smArts for art supplies for Idyllwild Elementary School arts program with additional consideration for specific funding related to art related field trips to art museums, etc.
- 3) **Scholarship Donations (IAF):** Continued donations to the Associates of Idyllwild Arts Foundation (IAF) for scholarships for locally based students
- 4) **College Bound Art Scholarships:** Larger scholarships that would go to Idyllwild high school seniors majoring in the arts in college. This would entail a formalized application process to help offset costs entering college.

**Current Research:** I have already met with Michael Slocum, President of Associates of IAF and have found out that the AAI can put restrictions on any scholarship donation to either the Associates or their endowment. Examples of restrictions would include scholarships designated for local students, music students, graphic arts students, etc. AAI has traditionally donated \$1,000-\$2,000 annually to the Associates without restrictions.

I was referred by Pamela Jordan, President of the Idyllwild Arts Academy, to talk to Gerald Clarke, IAA Visual Arts Department Chair. My topics with him would focus around the AAI student memberships that have been donated by AAI members and the types of student art disciplines that the AAI might be able to restrict scholarships for. As of this date, I have not met with Gerald and have tried via email to schedule a time to meet with him in person.

My future action items include reaching out to the following contacts:

- Home-school network -> Andrea Bond, Susan Gray, Suzanne Bishof & Melanie Manchester
- Hamilton High in Anza -> Suzanne Bishof

- Hemet High -> Mari Greeson, John Hill, Joe Picciotino, David Powell, Francie Pratt & Valerie Velez

I have already communicated with Anna Ancheta who provided me with many of the contacts. Anna heads MUSICA in Hemet, an organization that provides music lessons to needy students.

In the short term, donations to our traditional donees, smArts and the Associates, can continue with little change, with the exception of restricting our scholarships donations to local students. As I did with Michael Slocum, I would recommend meeting with smArts to get a breakdown of where the current donations are being used and what other needs they may have.

As I learn more about the other categories of potential scholarship recipients, the AAI board can set up a more formalized, comprehensive and expanded scholarship program.